Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 SAM-01 SCCT-01 SCS-03

SCA-01 OPR-01 A-01 OC-01 CCO-00 /063 W ------ 013102

O 231000Z DEC 74 FM AMCONSUL ASMARA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3038 AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

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E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: PINS, ET

SUBJECT: DISTURBANCES IN ASMARA

- 1. SUMMARY: SCATTERED SHOOTING INCIDENTS OF PAST SEVERAL NIGHTS INTENSIFIED EVENING OF 22 DEC LEAVING SEVERAL DEAD AND WOUNDED. END SUMMARY.
- 2. THERE HAVE BEEN SHOOTING INCIDENTS IN ASMARA EVERY EVENING BEGINNING 19 DEC. ACTUAL CAUSES OF INCIDENTS UNKNOWN, BUT PROBABLY RESULT FROM INCREASED NUMBER OF SECURITY FORCES AND ELF/PLF IN ASMARA AND TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO.
- 3. EVENING OF 22 DEC, ELF THREW GRENADES IN TWO BARS IN ASMARA. THE BARS WERE FREQUENTED BY TROOPS FROM 2ND DIV. AN UNCONFIRMED REPORT INDICATES 5 DEAD, 31 WOUNDED, AND SEVERAL HUNDRED ARRESTED. AFTER THE EXPLOSIONS, SECURITY FORCES SEARCHED AND CLOSED ALL BARS IN TOWN. MANY PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED AND A FEW KILLED IN THE PROCESS.
- 4. THIS MORNING AREA OF EXPLOSIONS WAS CORDONED OFF BY SECURITY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FORCES CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION. POLICE DETONATION TEAM EXPLODED

AT 0930 A BOMB FOUND IN A BAR IN THE SAME AREA OF THE OTHER EXPLOSIONS. THE AREA IS NOW OPEN TO TRAFFIC.

5. US CITIZENS LODGED IN A HOTEL IN AREA OF EXPLOSIONS WERE UNABLE TO REENTER HOTEL LAST NIGHT. HOWEVER, BY MIDMORNING THEY WERE ABLE TO RECLAIM THEIR POSSESSIONS FROM THE HOTEL. THERE IS NO REPORT OF A US CITIZEN BEING HARMED LAST NIGHT. US CITIZENS ARE BEING ADVISED TO STAY OUT OF DOWNTOWN ASMARA AT NIGHT.

PERRY

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Message Attributes

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